

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Rothery on 16 Dec 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

→The specification at page 1 / paragraph 2 that states **"The invention relates to an intervertebral ... Patent Claim 19."** has been replaced with the following paragraph:

"The invention relates to an intervertebral implant and to a process for the replacement of a defect, natural intervertebral disk by an intervertebral implant."

→The specification at page 3 / paragraph 2 that states **"The invention solves the task with an intervertebral implant ... the steps of Claim 19."** has been replaced with the following paragraph:

"The invention solves the task with an intervertebral implant and with a process for replacing a defect, natural intervertebral disk by an intervertebral implant."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL T. SCHAPER whose telephone number is (571)270-7413. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Barrett can be reached on (571)272-4746. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. T. S./
Examiner, Art Unit 3775

/Thomas C. Barrett/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
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